



U.S. Department of Justice

Ronald C. Machen Jr.
*United States Attorney for the
District of Columbia*

*Judiciary Center
555 Fourth St. N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20530*

PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Monday, December 13, 2010

For Information Contact:

Public Affairs

(202) 514-6933

http://www.usdoj.gov/usao/dc/Press_Releases/index.html

District Man Sentenced to 21-Year Prison Term For July 2008 Slaying of Father of Three - Shooting Followed Dispute Involving Parked Car -

WASHINGTON - Ronald B. Wynn, 37, of the District, has been sentenced to 21 years incarceration for crimes stemming from the killing of another District resident following a dispute over a parked car on July 28, 2008, U.S. Attorney Ronald C. Machen Jr. announced.

In handing down the sentence on December 10, 2010, Judge Herbert B. Dixon Jr., of the Superior Court of the District of Columbia, declared that the death of Daniel Clark, a 28-year-old father of three, was a “tremendous loss.”

A jury convicted Wynn, a prior felon, on September 9, 2010 of voluntary manslaughter while armed and a related firearms offense for the shooting and killing. Those proceedings were a retrial of the case. In the first trial in the matter, held in March 2010, a separate jury found Wynn guilty of obstruction of justice and firearms offenses related to the same killing, but was unable to come to a unanimous verdict on the murder charges.

According to evidence elicited during the trials, the victim, his wife, and nine-day-old daughter were at a cookout in the 3100 block of Buena Vista Terrace SE at about 7:20 p.m. on the night of the killing. Wynn drove into the block and double-parked his car, blocking traffic. While waiting for someone to come back outside, Wynn got out of his car and urinated on a parked car. Soon thereafter, Daniel Clark's wife asked Wynn to move his car because it was blocking traffic and a brief argument ensued, during which the defendant laid hands on her.

Upon seeing this, Daniel Clark came to his wife's aid and punched the defendant. A brief fistfight ensued, but was broken up by neighbors. At the end of the fight, both men threatened each other. Daniel Clark walked off, while Wynn went back to his car, retrieved a 9mm semiautomatic pistol, and – ignoring the neighbor's calls to “let it go” – chased after him.

Wynn tapped Daniel Clark on the shoulder, who turned around to find the defendant holding a gun to his head. Daniel Clark pleaded with the defendant that “it wasn't worth it,” and, at first, it appeared to bystanders that the trouble was over.

Witnesses saw Wynn turn and step away as if he were leaving. But then he stepped back, lifted the gun to the victim's head once again, and pulled the trigger. Wynn stood over the body, cursed, and fled. He spent the next month as a fugitive. During that time, Wynn attempted to enlist his girlfriend to lie and falsely claim that she was with him at the time of the murder.

In announcing the sentence, U.S. Attorney Machen expressed his appreciation to the Metropolitan Police Department, and particularly praised the work of Violent Crimes Branch Detective Ray Shields. He also commended the work of Legal Assistant Kelly Blakeney, who helped prepare the case for trial; Litigation Technology Specialist Leif Hickling, who created graphics to help illustrate what happened the night of the murder, and the Victim Witness Assistance Unit's Marcy Rinker, who helped reassure the victim's family throughout the investigation and at trial. Finally, he praised the outstanding work of Assistant United States Attorneys Sharad S. Khandelwal and Pat Martin, who prosecuted the case at both trials, and Samuel Ramer, who indicted the case.

10-349

###